

The GRANGE

Issue: 67

April

1997



CHAIR'S REPORT



Spring has sprung. At least that is what the calendar tells us. Changes in the season also mean changes in tempo for The Grange. We welcome back the snow birds and say us revoir to the spring travellers. We say goodbye to Allan Suddon's nineteenth century mannequins which graced and enhanced our rooms and look forward to April's volunteer supper with Kathryn Hamilton on Early Education in Ontario and to our May get-away to Port Hope with Katherine Ashenburg.

An important development for The Grange is the new AGO administrative change making The Grange part of the Canadian Collection. We look forward to working with Curator Dennis Reid, a long time friend, Council member and advocate of The Grange. In simplest organizational terms, it means we shall have clearer lines of accountability to the Board of the AGO and thus closer ties with the related departments of the gallery. We are staffing Thursday and Friday nights with two evening tours. This six week experimental effort is a good learning experience. Granted, we are not overwhelmed with visitors, but we and the AGO are gaining insights into marketing of The Grange, signage and the management of volunteers' time. I would like to thank all the Grangers who volunteered for the program.

Kudos to the volunteers who staffed Spring Break; those who cooked, served and organized the winter volunteer dinners; the executive and day captains who picked up the slack when I was on holidays in February and those special Daily Pursuit people who make the Grange a love for inner city children. Thank you.

Peggy will be retiring in July. Peggy has asked that we do not have a function for her. I wish I could change her mind; however, I must respect her request.

Do mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting on Monday, May 12 in the Education Theatre at 6 pm. We promise to be short on reports and long on fun. See you there.

- Flo Morson, Chair, The Grange

MARCH BREAK ACTIVITIES AT THE GRANGE

An inquiring young mind is intrigued with life during the 1840s as he examines household objects in The Grange kitchen. Historical interpreters are always on hand to enlighten all visitors on the many facets of The Grange; where and how the house and its inhabitants fit into Canadian history.



**The Grange
Volunteer Committee
1996-97**

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REMINDER

Please submit your news articles
for the next
Grange Newsletter by
JUNE 1st, 1997.

COMING EVENTS

Cooks' Refresher

Saturday, April 12, 1997 @ 09:30 AM

Hosted by: **Anna Patrick**

Primarily a refresher for the experienced cook, but there will be new information, in particular, care of the artifacts and safety.

Open to everyone, compulsory for anyone who wants to cook.
See bulletin board for more information.

Volunteer Training Suppers

Tuesday, April 22, 1997 @ 5:30 PM

Speaker: **Kathryn Hamilton**

Pioneer School Days in Old Ontario 1800 - 1860

Learn about the types of schools, what was taught and the extensive role of the teacher, many of whom were women.

Docent Training Programs 1996-97

Each topic is offered during the day on Tuesdays or on Wednesday evenings in the Education Theatre. Free to The Grange Volunteers.
See bulletin board for information.

Series (4) **THE INVISIBLE WOMEN** in the AGO Collection.

Apr. 8th/9th, Apr. 22nd/23rd, and May 6th/7th.

Annual Bus Trip May 6, 1997

Mark your calendars and sign your name for The Grange's annual bus trip. An architectural tour is planned for the town of Port Hope featuring author **Katherine Ashenburg** as our guide.

See bulletin board for information.

Annual General Meeting May 12, 1997 @ 6pm

In the Education Theatre.

Family Sundays at The Grange

Each Sunday The Grange features special events such as treasure hunts and dressing up in period cloths for youngsters. The **third Sunday** of every month will also feature pin-pricking.

Volunteer Appreciation Week

From April 13 to April 19 the Gallery Shop will offer substantial 25% (10% on jewellery) discounts for all volunteers

A special program is planned for **Thursday April 17 from 1 - 3:30 pm**. A choice of three Gallery tours will be available: **The Grange**, Highlights of the Permanent Collection and The Symbolist Prints of Edvard Munch. Afternoon tea will be served in the Volunteer Centre following the tours.

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

Stephanie Dickenson - Sunday

Christina Korte - Sunday

Susan Robins - Saturday

Andrea Macecek - Wednesday Evening

CORRECTION

Please note the following correction
to the February 1997 newsletter, Issue 66.

In The Grange Archives page, excerpts from the Street family letters:
Emily Street was married in 1868 to George D'Arcy Boulton, second son of D'Arcy Edward and Emily Heath.

CALLING ALL REBELS ! to the Ontario Historical Society

Four lectures commemorating the 160th anniversary of the Rebellion of 1837 in Upper Canada were presented by the Ontario Historical Society in February 1997. Grange volunteer, Loraine Warren attended the forum and would like to share her notes with the rest of us.

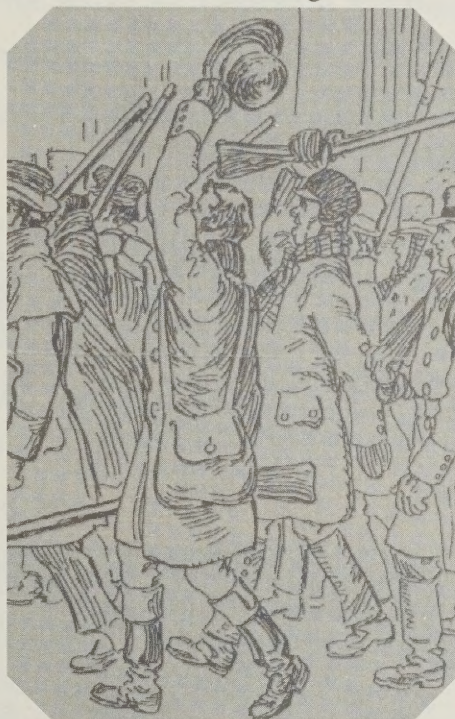
The **first** lecture was presented by Dr. Carl Benn - "*The Rebellion of 1837: Comic Opera or Provincial Tragedy?*" (a reprise of his lecture given to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Yonge Street - Feb. 17, 1996 Toronto Reference Library and printed in the Ontario Historical Society's publication *The Simcoe Legacy: The Life and Times of Yonge Street*).

According to Dr. Benn, some might call it a comic opera because of "Mackenzies' erratic behaviour, and the amateurism of loyalist and rebel military efforts on Yonge Street ..." He thinks, however, that it was a tragedy because of "how heavy-handed government oppression, the elimination of traditional opportunities to protest, the silencing of moderate voices, and the dangerous rhetoric and incompetence of hard-line leaders led to a situation where dozens of people were killed ... many more suffered grievous wounds, five were summarily shot on the Detroit River border ... twenty were hung, others rotted in jail, and 149 faced the grim penalties of banishment and transportation"

The **second** lecture was presented by Sarah Walker of the Costumemaker Studio - "*The Why and the Wear: Clothing in Upper Canada in 1837.*"

Women wore a 'shift' which came below the knee and stockings which came to the knee and were probably held up by ribbing or ribbon. Over this went the corset to raise the bust and support the back. Her petticoat probably had a "wear-out" band at the bottom and around her waist she wore a small 'bustle'. The 'chemisette' was worn over all of the above; it was short and made a collar for the dress. The dress took five yards of sixty-inch wide material to make

and, consequently was quite heavy. Until 1836, sleeves got progressively bigger; when the ultimate was reached, they began to make them smaller. The well-to-do woman handed on her dresses to the servants when the hem wore out, but working women had "wear-out" hems on theirs. A paisley shawl might be worn over the dress and a large bonnet, perhaps decorated with flowers, ribbon and lace completed the ensemble. See "Habiliment of 1837" by Sarah Walker in the Ontario Historical Society's publication *1837 Rebellion Remembered* for more information and drawings.



Joyce Lewis, 19th century social historian and author, was the **third** lecturer - "*Everyday Life in 1837*"

The first log house would have been improved by 1837 and there would be other settlers about as well, there was a church or chapel, a store and a black-smith, etc. Life was not easy for they worked from dawn to dusk in summer and from dawn to six p.m. in winter. Settlers in the Home District might visit Toronto once a year and although it had wooden sidewalks, the shops were quite splendid with plenty of goods on display and fruits and vegetables from Niagara-on-the-

Lake. According to one report, one could hear bells in Toronto - in the street for auctions, in hotels for meals and on boats in the harbour. Torontonians took their water from the bay; dirty sewer water emptied into it and dead animals were sometimes seen in it.

There was an inn every mile or so along the road making drunkenness a problem. Early temperance pledges were promises to drink no more than six glasses per day!

Gathering on the church steps might be the only time a woman saw her neighbour unless there were get-togethers for quilt-making or a barn raising. Winter was the time for fun and visiting because it was easier to get around.

For more details read "*Daily Life in the Home District in 1837*" by Joyce Lewis in *1837 Rebellion Remembered*.

Rosemary Sadlier, President of the Ontario Black History Society, gave the **fourth** lecture, "*Blacks and the Rebellion of 1837.*"

1776 saw blacks defending British interests in the New World. They came in as Loyalists to the Maritimes and to Ontario. The number of slaves coming north increased when slavery was abolished by Britain in 1834. The blacks joined the Coloured Corps of Upper Canada because they were loyal. It was Richard Pierport who suggested the first all black company, but it was a white man, Captain Runchy, who was put in charge. The strongest reason for blacks being involved in the Rebellion of 1837 was their desire to get free. The Glengarry Regiment had but one black man in it, but there were many coloured corps, not just in Toronto and Windsor, but other places in Ontario as well.

Rosemary Sadlier has written many books about the early Ontario blacks, notably one on Mary Ann Shadd and one on Harriet Tubman.

Also see "*To Stand and Fight Together*" by Steve Pitt in the Spring 1997 issue of *Rotunda*: the magazine of the Royal Ontario Museum.

- Loraine Warren

The following is part of a letter written in 1844 from an emigrant to Canada which gives an interesting insight into life in Canada at that time.

"As things have been going here in this country it seems likely that we shall have to do without any currency altogether. It is indeed quite common to witness the erection of a new building without ever seeing such a thing as cash pass from one hand to another. It is almost impossible to secure hard currency in some areas. The industry with which the inhabitants of this country put up structures might occasion a chance visitor to look aghast at such foolhardiness especially in the face of such obstacles as the terrible Canadian winter which freezes the ink in my well even as I write this. There is no lack of labour which is satisfied to receive in wages produce which even the lower classes in England scorn. Immediately upon arriving here, one ambitious fellow put up a two storey brick dwelling on Duke Street. He solicited the aid of his neighbours in the erection of this noble structure, while the storekeeper furnished the glass, putty, nails, etc, all of which the man paid for in work at his trade in the course of the following six months."

AGO Announces Spring Lineup of Popular Jazz Series Sponsored by BMW

Jazz concerts will run every
Wednesday evening starting on
April 9, 1997 until June 25, 1997.

The series also includes three
Sunday afternoon concerts on
April 13, April 20 and June 1.

Concerts are licensed (except
Sundays) and are included with
Gallery admission unless
otherwise indicated.

The AGO will also host concerts that
are part of the du Maurier Ltd.

Downtown Jazz festival on
June 20, 21, 22, & June 27, 28, 29.

For tickets/information call:
416-979-6608.

ART IN BLOOM

A welcomed sign of spring is
the Art In Bloom exhibition at
the AGO.

In its third year Art In Bloom
will take place from April 21
to April 24.

AGORA

means "meeting place" or
"market place" in
ancient Greek.

Agora is also the new name of
the Art Gallery of Ontario's
restaurant.

Agora will be open:
Wednesday through Friday
from 12 noon to 8:30 pm,
Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon
Also open on holiday Mondays.

For reservations please call:
416-979-6612

AGO - ONLINE

Visit the Gallery's Web site at:
www.AGO.net

AGO EXHIBITIONS

**Eros and Thanatos: In
Photographic Motifs**
February 26 to May 25, 1997.

**The Mystical Landscapes of
Charles-Marie Dulac**
February 26 to May 25, 1997.

**Edvard Munch: Prints from the
Vivian and David Campbell
Collection**
February 28 to May 25, 1997.

**Edvard Munch's "The Scream"
and Popular Culture**
February 28 to May 25, 1997.

Chris Marker: Silent Movie
to June 1, 1997

**Willie Doherty: The Only Good
One is a Dead One**
to June 1, 1997

**The Distance Between: Jin-me
Yoon & Kim Yasuda**
to June 29, 1997

Present Tense: Euan Macdonald
to June 1, 1997

**Transformation: Prix Saidye
Bronfman Award 1977-1996**
to June, 1997

Whistler and His Circle
May 19, to July 6, 1997

WOMEN WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Grange Volunteer,

Helen Hatton

was nominated in the 9th Annual Women Who Make a Difference awards. Women were honoured for their energy, their ideas and their dedication to a variety of organizations. Helen was nominated by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. All of us at The Grange congratulates you on this very prestigious honour.

The advertisement below is from a 1940s newspaper.

Contemporary British Art

FROM THE

New York World's Fair

On Exhibition for Limited Time

ART GALLERY OF TORONTO

Dundas St. at McCaul

Week Days, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission 25c

Saturdays and Sundays FREE

(Sundays, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. only)

Tea served in Grange House
Saturday and Sunday

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

- CAROL RAWSON -

Carol grew up in upstate New York, in the Lockport area and later moved to California with her family before coming to Ontario. During her years in Lockport, she developed an interest in the 19th century household objects which were a part of her family possessions.

This interest in history, a search for a volunteer commitment and a notice in the AGO newsletter combined to lead Carol to The Grange. In 1981 she began a 16 year period of service as an historical interpreter.

Carol was among the first of a group of volunteers recruited to staff The Grange. An earlier cut in public funding and a phasing out of paid staff threatened to close The Grange. Although Carol is proficient in interpreting all areas of the house, she loved working below stairs in the bakeroom the best. She served as Day Captain for the Wednesday evening shift for 10 years during which time she took an active interest in the affairs of The Grange and a personal interest in the evening volunteers. Through this interest, the evening shift was formed into a close cohesive, mutually supportive group that enjoys many social events together outside the Gallery.

Carol has valued the friendships formed at The Grange, recognizing the diversity of backgrounds of her fellow volunteers and their common interest in museums. She has also developed a deep respect for professionals working in museum circles.

Due to increasing work pressures in her position as a Family Services worker at the Catholic Children's Aid Society and a resultant inability to make a consistent commitment, Carol has reluctantly ended her period of service at The Grange. In the future, Carol hopes to volunteer in another area of special interest, the theatre.

The Grange volunteers are grateful to Carol for her many years of dedicated service and extend best wishes to her future volunteer endeavours.

- Linda Tyrrell



RECOMMENDED READING

Two articles by Margaret Machell make interesting and informative reading.

The magazine *York Pioneer* in 1975 printed Ms Machell's article on the *Restoration of The Grange* (a copy of which can be found in the Research books). It was written in a straight forward and easily read style of the Town of York, its population in general and the Boulton family in particular. And, of course, of the formation of the Restoration Committee and the decisions that had to be made by it. The decision to make 1835 the "restoration year" is explained clearly, as are the changes made to the house by the Boultons in the 1840s. Things we often find ourselves trying to explain to visitors.

The second article by Ms Mackell *Life in the Town House*, was written as a chapter for a book which was never published. (A great shame in my opinion) This article has recently been re-typed and put into the Grange Library. Ms Machell draws on books and diaries and letters to draw an excellent picture of early 19th century life from the perspective of the mistress of the house.

Another fascinating, albeit much larger reading project, is a survey by Jeanne Minhinnick of what furnishings etc. could be found in Upper Canada, in the years 1785 to 1867. It was apparently commissioned by the Federal Government and so can only be used for our own information in The Grange. It is well worth "dipping into" if nothing further and is intriguing reading.

- Avril Stringer, Research, The Grange

There are a number of time-honoured institutions in Toronto that have withstood various threats to their existences and survived. One of them is Upper Canada College (UCC), having grown from a small private boys' school opened by Bishop Strachan in 1829 on King Street East (near present day Roy Thomson Hall), to a sprawling Deer Park enclave (north of St.Clair West/Avenue Road). One other thing has sustained; the link between the school and many families of the upper echelons of Toronto society.

The connection between the Boulton Family and UCC starts at the College's inception, and moves through to the early 20th century, and has an interesting congruity to it; William Henry Boulton's uncle was a teacher, William Henry was a student, and Goldwyn Smith, who married William Henry's widow, was a staunch supporter of the school.

The Reverend William Boulton, son of D'Arcy Sr., came from Queen's College, Oxford, to be second classics master. He was advanced £100 upon his engagement with the school. Aside from his abilities it is suggested that he was hired because of his family connections. His letters attest to long, hard days at the school. Up and dressed by six or seven in the morning, he then read or wrote until 7:45 prayers. After an 8:00 breakfast, the teaching day ran until 4:00. Then, he conducted funerals, baptisms and marriages until dark, and made hospital visits on his half-days. He was also chaplain to the armed forces and secretary to two committees.

He showed a compassionate side, offering to take two bachelor professors into his home to relieve their loneliness, but not before his wife wrote from England recommending that each pay £80 a year each for the opportunity.

He was a highly regarded member of the 'holy quartet' of Canadian cricket, and along with three other school masters, helped put UCC on the map as a sporting force to be reckoned with.

Rev. William Boulton seems to have spent a very arduous but happy time at UCC. However, it did not last long, as he died of pleurisy in 1834.

In 1830, there was another Boulton at UCC. William Henry Boulton joined a list of children attending the first semester of the school that reads like a who's who of the Family Compact's heirs: Henry Scadding, two sons of Bishop Strachan, John Beverly Robinson and his

brother, two Powells, two Sherwoods, two Denisons, three Jarvises, four Ridouts, three Richardsons, a Ketchum and three Hewards. While William Henry was only at UCC from January to November, 1830, his future prominence could not have been tarnished by his time at the College.

Much later in the century, Goldwyn Smith entered into the fray of school politics as UCC matured and faced a bleak future. The pressures of government influences and control over education had increased substantially since Egerton Ryerson brought reform in the 1840s, and in the 1880s, an even more formalized education system was imminent. Smith argued in 1881 that a school like UCC was a survivor from the age before high schools had developed. To compare the two was difficult, but he offered that although UCC took students away from the high schools at public expense (there was an endowment given to the school), the alternative was for those boys to be sent out of the country.

Smith sustained his active role in UCC's political life, both internal and external, and kept abreast of all the debates about the school's relevance in an increasingly streamlined education system.

However, he was not only an advocate, orator, historian and inveterate Victorian, he was also an armchair sports critic, and waxed philosophical in the late 1880s about the 'new athleticism':

Athleticism is a curious and characteristic product of our generation. Its birth is quite recent. At Eton and Oxford in my day there was cricket and there was boating; there were cricket matches and there were boating matches; but there were no athletics. Nor was there any bodily exercise or field for bodily display and distinction except games and boating. There was the fencing master, but he had scarcely any pupils. Running, walking, leaping and throwing matches had not come into existence. A good oarsman or cricketer had his need of school or college admiration or renown, but this revival of Greek feeling about success in games and bodily exercises had not set in. The Public School matches and boat races were objects of interests to Eton, Winchester, Westminster, Harrow and their circles, but the general public paid very little attention to them and they received little notices in the newspapers. Now they are national events.

Cricket and baseball have both evidently

The Grange, the Boultons and Upper Canada College - A Strong Connection -

by Diana Smyth

been developed by evolution out of the infantine (sic) game of trap-ball, the bowler or pitcher being substituted for the trap, and the running being backward and forward in one case and round the ring in the other. Single-wicket cricket and the English boys' game of 'rounders' are the 'missing links'. That out-of-door games are excellent things in their measure, we are all agreed. But in England all measure has been lost. Men live to play games instead of playing games to live. Surely it is laughable to see a man sheathed in defensive armour of the most elaborate kind march solemnly out before a vast concourse of spectators and with a gait which bespeaks his consciousness of his heroic responsibility to display the skill which by years of laborious practice he has acquired of preventing a ball from hitting three upright sticks.

The aristocratic and leisure game of all others is cricket, a match at which, when the players are first-rate, takes seldom less than two, often three days, and if the defence continues to improve its advantage over the attack may presently take a week. Cricket probably will never be naturalized here; besides its inordinate demands on time the difficulty of keeping up lawns in our hot summer is against it.

I, on the other hand, think it would be laughable to see Goldwyn Smith's expression if he learned how much professional athletes are paid these days.

Another interesting connection: in a sense, Rev. William Boulton helped form the school's identity, William Henry perpetuated the school's standard of success and Goldwyn Smith strove to preserve both of those ideals in a time of crisis.

- Diana Smyth, *The Grange, Research*

Source:
Howard, Richard B. *Upper Canada College, 1829-1979*. Toronto, Upper Canada College, 1979.